

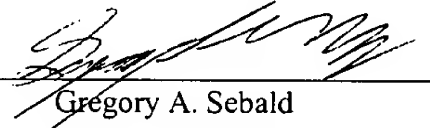
Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Gregory A. Sebald (Reg. No. 33,280), at (612) 332.5300.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 8, 2002

By   
Gregory A. Sebald  
Reg. No. 33,280

GASebald/nel

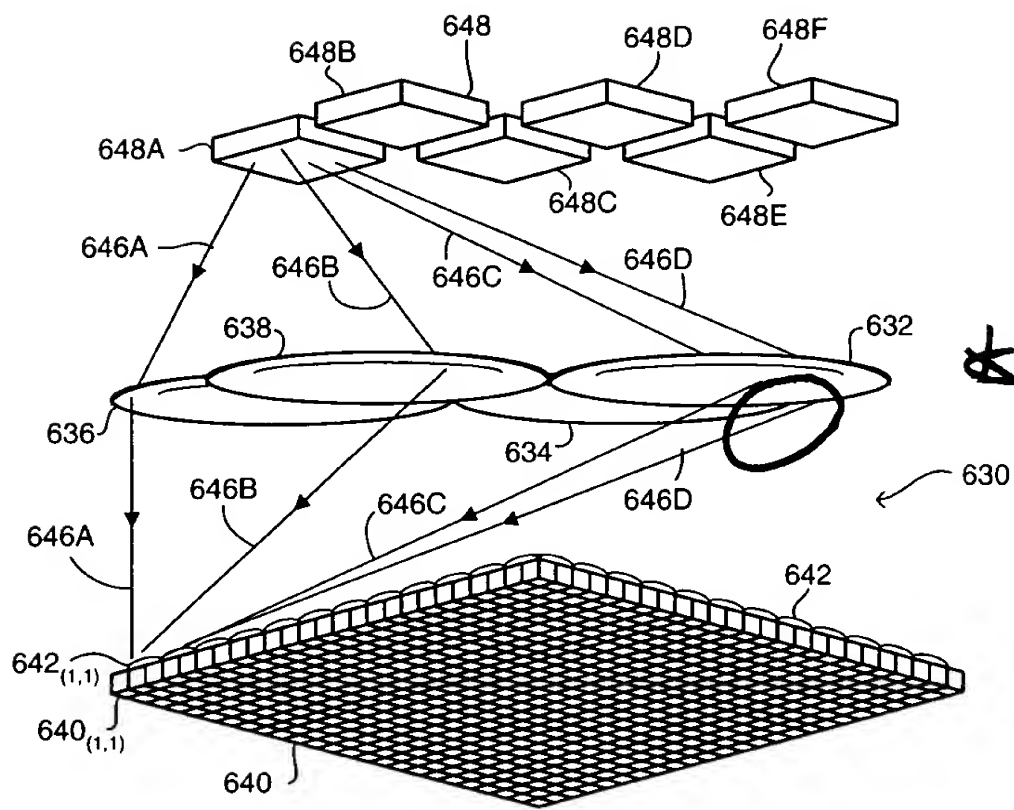
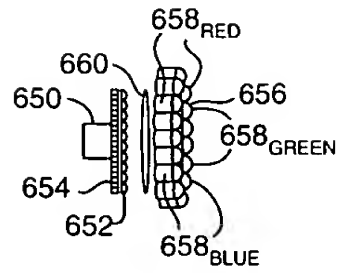
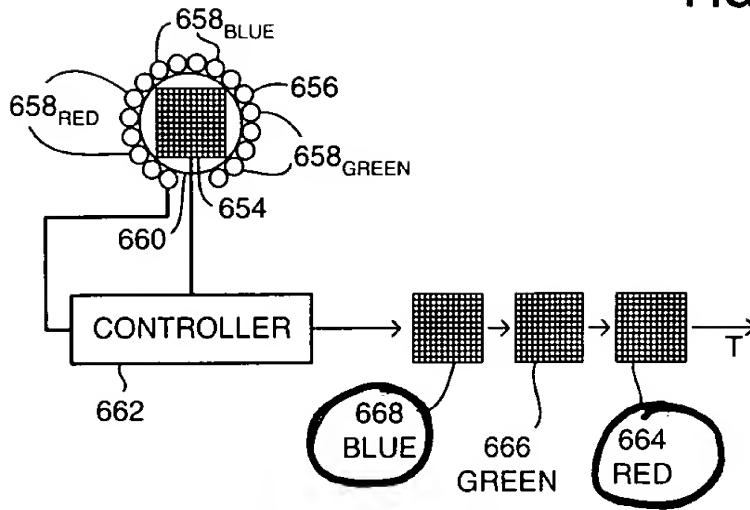


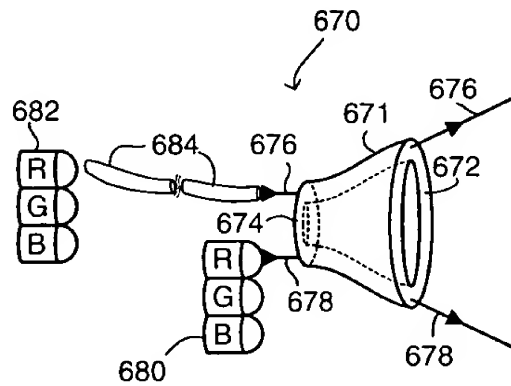
FIG. 13



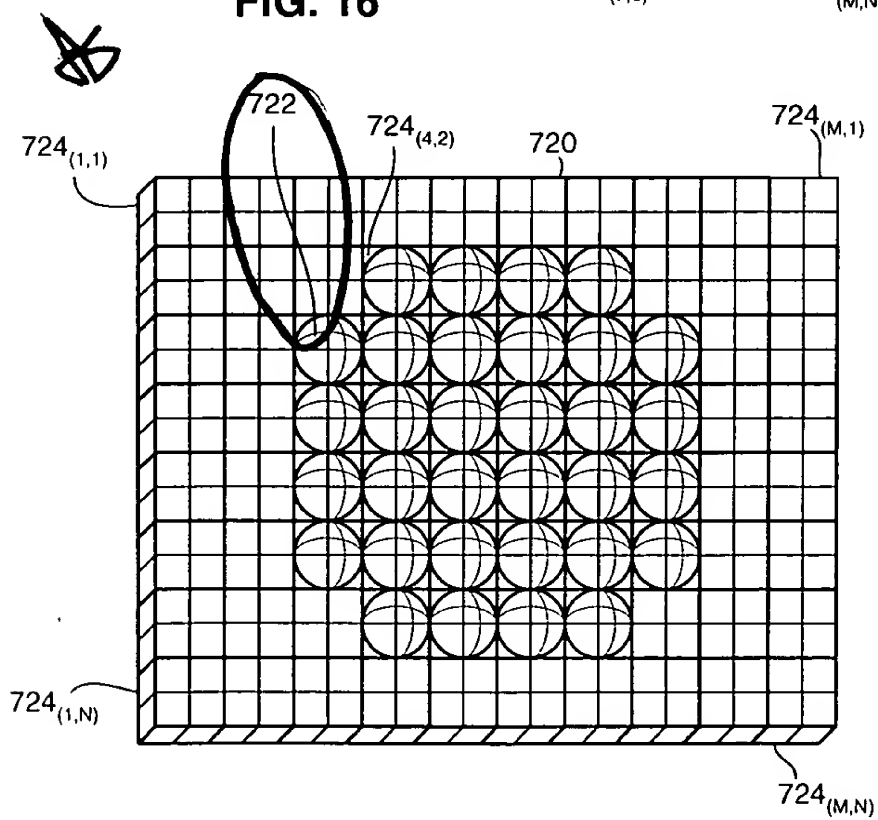
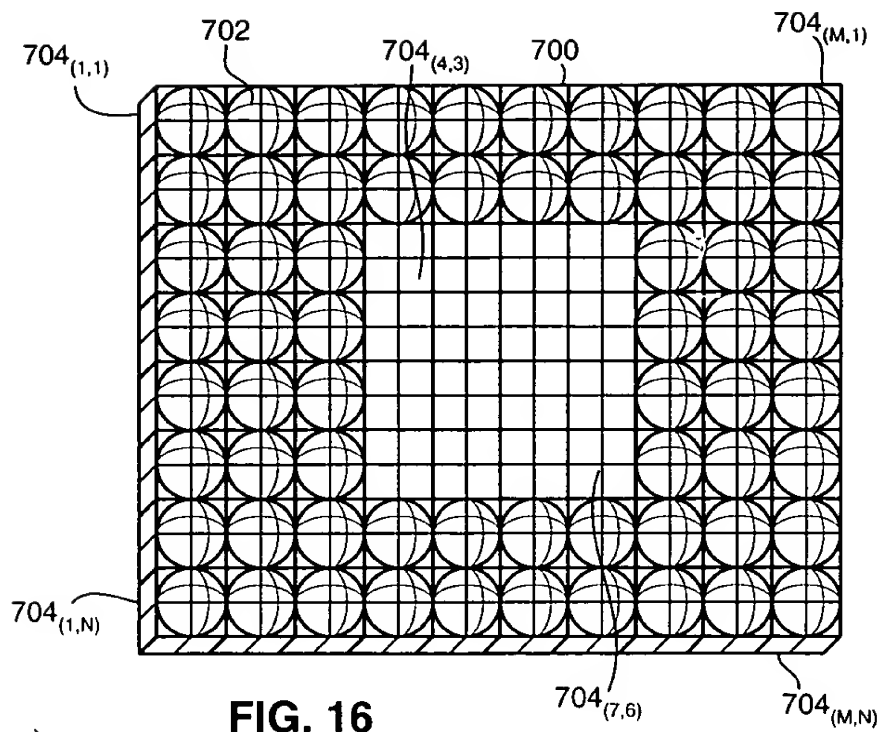
**FIG. 14A**

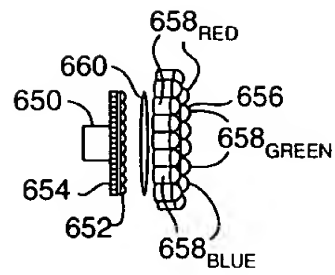


**FIG. 14B**

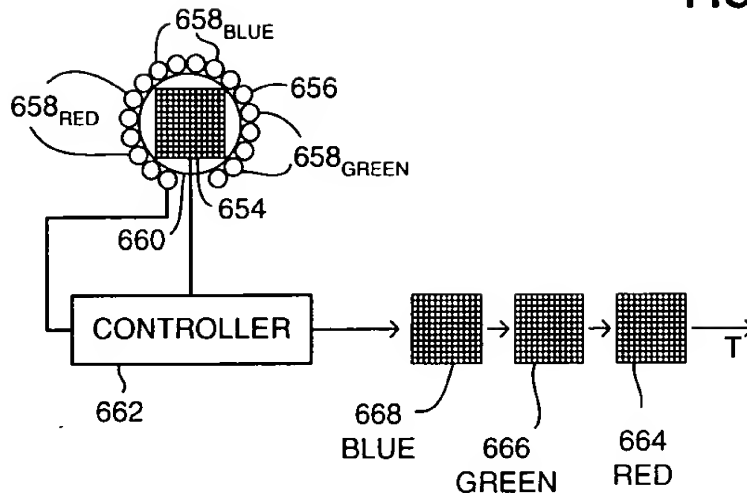


**FIG. 15**

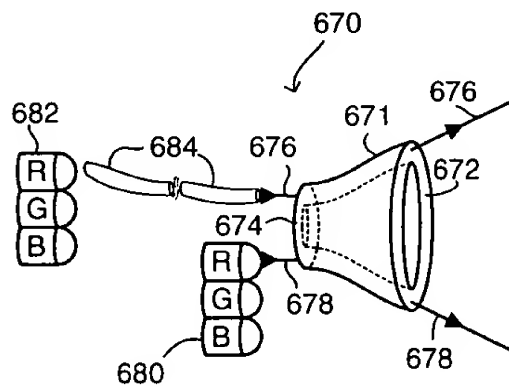




**FIG. 14A**



**FIG. 14B**



**FIG. 15**